



WEEK ENDING JUNE 19, 2015

OPP Weekly Activity Report

Highlights Include:

Page

2	<i>Fenoxaprop-p-ethyl (FPE) Proposed Interim Decision (PID) Signed</i>
2	<i>Acequinocyl Preliminary Work Plan Signed</i>
3	<i>Pesticide Web Information on List of Agency-Level Most Visited/Viewed</i>
3	<i>NAFTA TWG on Pesticides Accomplishments Report</i>
3	<i>Worker Protection Standard Communications</i>
3	<i>Application for Permit from USDA on Hold</i>
4	<i>In-house Data Collection Completed for the OECD Method with Virus</i>
4	<i>Recovery of Mycobacterium from Porous Carriers</i>
4	<i>Laboratories Complete Data Collection for Collaborative Study of the Quantitative Petri Plate Method (QPM) for Antimicrobial Towelettes</i>
5	<i>BPPD Responds to Emergency Exemption Request for AF36 Use on California Figs</i>
5	<i>EPA Region 9, OPP and USDA-APHIS host webinar on biotech crops for Tribal nations</i>
6	<i>USGS Seminar on Groundwater Contamination</i>
6	<i>Honey Bee Health Workshop</i>
7	<i>Two Briefings of the Assistant Administrator on Chlorpyrifos</i>
8	<i>AD Briefs Office of Management and Budget on the 158W Settlement Agreement</i>
8	<i>Sodium Fluoride Interim Decision Signed</i>
8	<i>Tributyltin Oxide Combined Work Plan/Proposed Interim Registration Review Decision Signed</i>
9	<i>OPP Updates</i>
9	<i>OPP FOIA Request Status Report for June 8-12, 2015</i>

PESTICIDE RE-EVALUATION DIVISION

Fenoxaprop-p-ethyl (FPE) Proposed Interim Decision (PID) Signed. This week the proposed interim decision for FPE was signed. FPE is a selective aryloxy phenoxy-propionate herbicide registered for use on barley, cotton, rice, soybeans, and wheat to control grass weeds after emergence. Registered non-agricultural uses include conservation reserves, ornamentals, rights-of-way, and turf. EPA's Proposed Interim Registration Review Decision for FPE is: (1) No additional data are required at this time; (2) changes to the affected registrations and their labels are needed at this time. To address potential risk to non-target terrestrial plants (monocots), spray drift management language is proposed for all FPE product registrations used on agricultural, wide area, or rights of way use sites. Registrants must also implement agreed-upon label language clarifying use rates. In addition, EPA proposes that these labels contain certain recommended herbicide-resistance management measures. The final decision on the FPE registration review case will depend upon the results of the EDSP determination, an ESA consultation with the Services, and an assessment of potential non-target exposure to bees. (Miguel Zavala, 703-347-0504).

Acequinocyl Preliminary Work Plan Signed. On June 4, 2015, a Preliminary Work Plan was signed for acequinocyl. Acequinocyl (PC Code 006329) is a quinoline-type miticide currently registered for controlling mites on various agricultural and ornamental plant crops. It is approved for use in greenhouses, shadehouses, and nurseries as well as in and around residences, businesses, public property, schools, interiorscapes, and other non-production areas by commercial applicators and homeowners. Acequinocyl is applied as a foliar spray and has no systemic activity but provides contact control of all life stages of mites, acting by disrupting cellular respiration in the target pests. During registration review, the Agency anticipates the need to conduct a comprehensive ecological risk assessment, including an endangered species assessment, for all uses of acequinocyl. For human health, EPA anticipates the need to conduct revised dietary, residential, and occupational risk assessments during registration review. The PWP will be publically posted in the new acequinocyl registration review docket, EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0203, for a 60-day public comment period. After the 60-day public comment period closes, the Agency will review and respond to any comments received in a timely manner and then issue a Final Work Plan for the registration review of acequinocyl. (Margaret Hathaway, 703-305-5076).

FIELD & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Pesticide Web Information on List of Agency-Level Most Visited/Viewed. Our bed bug Web information has been popular as long as we have had a Web presence on this topic. Recently, our Web pages have made it back into the top 10 list, specifically the [bed bug home page](#) and a page on “[do-it-yourself” bed bug control](#) have been on the list for the past few weeks. In addition, a [blog post from Region 2](#) has been on the most-viewed blog list for quite a while. We also have two videos on the list: one on [fogger safety](#) and one on [lawn care tips](#). (Claire Gesalman, 308-3260)

NAFTA TWG on Pesticides Accomplishments Report. This week, staff from Canada, Mexico and the United States completed their review of the final version of the [NAFTA Technical Working Group on Pesticides Accomplishments Report 2008 – 2013](#) and coordinated its release through our respective Web pages. The TWG has achieved measurable success in aligning pesticide regulation in North America while establishing high standards of environmental, ecological and human health protection. (Wanda Hall, 347-0448; Ana Rivera-Lupianez, 308-6844; Lily Negash, 347-8515)

Worker Protection Standard Communications. On June 8, Jim Jones and FEAD staff met with the Administrator and OPA staff to discuss the response to the White House offer of assistance in amplifying the amended agricultural worker protection regulation's pesticide worker safety messages. On June 9, Jim Jones and FEAD staff met with the Administrator and a coalition of Hispanic pesticide worker safety advocacy organizations to listen to their concerns about the implementation and enforcement of the amended agricultural worker protection regulation. (Kevin Keaney – 305-5557)

BIOLOGICAL & ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION

Application for Permit from USDA on Hold. The OPP Microbiology Laboratory planned to conduct a practice session with the RV-PVR method for detection of *Bacillus anthracis* developed by the EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) in July. The EPA Office of Emergency Management requested this support. The laboratory was scheduled to receive wipe samples containing *Bacillus anthracis* Sterne strain from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. The Sterne strain is avirulent, meaning its ability to cause illness in people or animals have been reduced due to the loss of the pXO2 plasmid. The Sterne strain is a controlled substance requiring a permit from USDA. In preparation for the receipt

of the samples, the laboratory submitted an application to USDA for a permit to transport the controlled material. A response was received from USDA that all permit requests for *Bacillus anthracis* are on hold due to the recent concerns regarding appropriate inactivation of *Bacillus anthracis*. OEM was notified of the delay. (Susan Lawrence, 410-305-2954)

In-house Data Collection Completed for the OECD Method with Virus. The Microbiology Laboratory completed the last phase of data collection for the OECD collaborative study with feline calcivirus. The four month study was designed to confirm the performance of the OECD virology-specific procedure and was divided into four parts: neutralization assay, meeting the control count range, conducting the procedure using reference standards, and performing the efficacy evaluation using four blinded antimicrobial products. The other participating labs are still in the data collection phase. The data have been peer reviewed and the data summary is under development. Ultimately, data from all participating labs will be submitted to a statistician for analysis. MLB's next steps also include researching certain aspects of the method to improve performance (e.g., other ways to mitigate chemical toxicity besides washing cell monolayer, will increasing virus absorption time increase virus recovery, porous coupon work, investigating additional viruses, etc.). (Michele Cottrill, 410-305-2955 and Jason Duncan, 410-305-2619)

Recovery of *Mycobacterium* from Porous Carriers. MLB conducted a feasibility test, using the OECD Quantitative Method to determine the level of recovery of *Mycobacterium terrae* from porous carriers (wood) compared to the official OECD carriers (brushed stainless steel). This study represents the first time the laboratory has data on recovery of this bacteria from porous coupons. Preliminary results from carrier counts indicate a 6.5 log density from stainless steel carriers while porous wood carriers exhibited approximately 5 logs. Testing will continue, with modifications to the method and using other microbes, in order to achieve a 5.5 - 6 log density on porous carriers. (Knoxley Japal, 410-305-2660)

Laboratories Complete Data Collection for Collaborative Study of the Quantitative Petri Plate Method (QPM) for Antimicrobial Towelettes. The four laboratories have completed data collection for the Quantitative Petri Plate Method (QPM), a new quantitative method that is being developed to measure the efficacy of antimicrobial towelettes. The laboratories evaluated control counts, neutralization, mechanical removal, and efficacy using a reference standard material against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The data have been peer reviewed and are being organized in a data package that will be submitted to Montana State University, under contract with EPA, to conduct

the statistical analysis; a task order will be written under the contract to specify the aspects of the analysis essential to MLB. (Luisa C. Samalot-Freire, 410-305-2984)

BIOPESTICIDES & POLLUTION PREVENTION DIVISION

BPPD Responds to Emergency Exemption Request for AF36 Use on California Figs.

On June 15, at the request of RD, science reviewers in BPPD's Microbial Pesticides Branch (MPB) completed an efficacy review and risk assessments supporting the use of *Aspergillus flavus* Strain AF36 (AF36) on dried figs in California. AF36 is currently registered as a microbial pesticide to reduce the presence of toxigenic strains of this fungus on cotton, corn and pistachios (EPA Reg. No. 71693-1). The microbial active ingredient is atoxigenic, replacing toxigenic strains in soil by competitive displacement. This method is currently the most widely used type of biocontrol for reducing aflatoxin contamination in world-wide crops where aflatoxin contamination is a persistent problem for human and animal health. (Gail Tomimatsu, 703-308-8543; Milutin Djurickovic, 703-347-0126; Shannon Borges, 703-305-7175).

EPA Region 9, OPP and USDA-APHIS host webinar on biotech crops for Tribal nations.

On June 11, a webinar was hosted by Region 9, USDA-APHIS and OPP for Tribal nations, providing an overview of the regulation of biotechnology-derived crops. BPPD addressed the regulation of plant-incorporated protectants, EFED covered general environmental risk assessment considerations and BEAD discussed resistance management plans for pesticides, focusing on herbicides used on genetically engineered herbicide resistant plants. USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services presented an overview of their GE-plant risk assessments. Several Tribes from Region 9 asked questions on topics including the potential impact of PIPs on native plants, and confinement of GE crops to minimize impacts through gene flow between compatible plant species. The Tribal nations would like more information on how they may have a greater voice in decision making relative to approval of these biotech products, and to be notified when EUPs are considered near or on Tribal lands. It was suggested that OPP and APHIS pay greater attention during the risk assessment process to include those who are considered subsistence farmers, gatherers or hunters. (Skee Jones, 703-305-7416; Marcy Katzin, 415-947-4215; Rosanna Louie-Juzwiak, 703-308-0037; Chris Wozniak 703-308-4043).

ENVIRONMENTAL FATE & EFFECTS DIVISION

USGS Seminar on Groundwater Contamination. The EFED Water Quality Tech Team participated in a webinar this week entitled “Groundwater Contamination: National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Results Cycle 1 and 1.” The presentation by Barbara Mahler (USGS) discussed findings from two decades of groundwater monitoring across the U.S. Geology, hydrology, geochemistry, chemical use, and water use were all used to explain how vulnerability to contamination varies across the country. Natural features and human activities were also recognized as contributors to overall groundwater quality. Among the contaminants identified, dieldrin was found to still persist in several areas of the country, despite being banned in 1985 (Meridith Fry, 703-347-0128).

Honey Bee Health Workshop. On June 16, representatives of EFED and ORD along with the USDA Office of Pest Management and Policy and the Agricultural Research Service Beltsville Bee Laboratory participated in a conference call with a recently formed workgroup tasked by the European Commission to organize a workshop in Europe on factors affecting bee health. The workgroup members are interested in learning about U.S. efforts to organize a similar meeting hosted by USDA and EPA in 2012, *i.e.*, the National Stakeholder Conference on Honey Bee Health. The European workshop is tentatively scheduled for January 2016 in Brussels, Belgium, and is intended to provide participants with an overview of the current knowledge and to identify gaps where additional research is needed. The workgroup was particularly interested in how the U.S. conference organizers managed to achieve a reasonable balance of stakeholders and how the workshop in Europe might build on research discussed at the U.S. conference in 2012. (Tom Steeger, 703-305-5444; David Lehmann, 919-541-0234).

HEALTH EFFECTS DIVISION

Two Briefings of the Assistant Administrator on Chlorpyrifos. HED led two briefings for Jim Jones on June 16 and 18 on science issues related to chlorpyrifos, which are pertinent to the June 30 update to court requested by the 9th Circuit. The first was led by Anna Lowit and Cecilia Tan (ORD-NERL) and focused on using the physiologically-based pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic model (PBPK-PD) to characterize biomonitoring data from the children's cohort epidemiology studies along with other sources of biomonitoring data such as NHANES and worker studies. The second briefing was led by Wade Britton and Jeff Dawson where the focus was on a number of issues related to the spray drift and worker risk assessment results. The worker issues included describing how working youth are addressed by the current methodology. The second involved how hygiene practices like bathing habits and clothes laundering can impact exposure. The exposure duration input of 8 hours per day was also discussed along with data to support its use. Additionally, the results of the spray drift risk assessment were discussed, the premise for the approach, and how the results compare to other exposure situations for characterization purposes. (Anna Lowit, 308-4135)

Chemical	Deliverable	Branch
Prosulfuron	Human Health Risk Assessment	RAB VI
Triasulfuron	Human Health Risk Assessment	RAB VI
Sulfoxaflor	Section 18 Human Health Risk Assessment	RAB II
Fluensulfone	Tolerance Review	RAB II
Ipconazole	Combined Scoping Document/Human Health Risk Assessment	RAB II
Fluensulfone	Section 18 Human Health Risk Assessment	RAB II

ANTIMICROBIALS DIVISION

AD Briefs Office of Management and Budget on the 158W Settlement Agreement.

On Tuesday June 16, 2015, EPA met with OMB to discuss the March 2, 2015 settlement agreement reached by EPA and ACC that addressed ACC's petition for judicial review of EPA's 40 CFR Part 158W data requirements for antimicrobial pesticides. OMB had questions on the Use Site Index and asked for an explanation of the 200 ppb trigger for indirect food uses. OMB did not request to review the upcoming Use Site Index guidance to registrants, which AD plans to issue the week of June 29th (by July 2, per the settlement agreement). (Jennifer McLain, 703-308-0293).

Sodium Fluoride Interim Decision Signed. The Interim Decision for the registration review of Sodium fluoride (case #3132) was signed on June 15, 2015. Sodium fluoride, PC code 075202, is registered for use as a wood preservative to protect the groundline portion of existing wooden utility poles. It is formulated into an impregnated pole wrap material. Documents associated with this registration review can be found in docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0655 at www.regulations.gov. (SanYvette Williams, 703-305-7702)

Tributyltin Oxide (TBTO) Combined Work Plan/Proposed Interim Registration Review Decision Signed.


The combined Preliminary Work Plan and Proposed Interim Decision document (PWP/PIDD) for the registration review of Tributyltin oxide or TBTO, case 2620, was signed on June 15, 2015. TBTO, PC code 083001, is registered for use as an antifouling coating. The applications are for (1) incorporation into rubber for the formation of sonar domes used in US Navy vessels and (2) for use in antifouling devices within oceanographic instruments deployed by government researchers to monitor global ocean conditions (i.e., conductivity sensors). It is anticipated to be published by the end of June for public comment. The PWP/PIDD is located in docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0801 at www.regulations.gov. (SanYvette Williams, 703-305-7702)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

OPP Updates. The ITRMD Web Team worked with FEAD to publish an OPP Update to the Pesticide News Stories web page.

- [EPA Celebrates Pollinator Week; Encourages Pollinator Protection Every Day](#)
- [EPA's Proposal to Protect Bees from Acutely Toxic Pesticides – Public Webinar and Comment Period Extension](#)
- [EPA Solicits Comment on Draft Product Performance Test Guidelines for Antimicrobial Agents](#)

(Delphine Coleman, 703-305-5692)

 OPP FOIA Request Status Report for June 8-12, 2015							
Requests Received		Requests Closed			Requests Open		
FY15	This Week	FY15	FYTD	This Week	FY15	Prior Years	Total
351	6	236	367	21	115	232	347

(Sharon McBride, 703-305-5232)